

Pyrus communis. This variety is a large, vigorous grower. It early begins the formation of short, spurlike branches, which spread horizontally, with few of the upright rank shoots customary to Kieffer and other hybrids. The fruit is small, not much larger than Seckel. It is moderately late, ripening only a little ahead of Kieffer, and is of poor quality. The variety bears profusely, however. Dr. Whitten says that he does not remember having seen a trace of blight in any of the *Surprise* trees on his grounds, though they are growing in a pear orchard in which numerous susceptible varieties have died out entirely from blight and other varieties have blighted more or less every year." (*B. T. Galloway*.)

45902. ARUNDINARIA FALCATA Nees. Poaceæ. **Bamboo.**

From Nice, France. Presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. Received March 12, 1918.

A slender bamboo growing to a height of 20 feet but not exceeding half an inch in diameter, having the young stems covered with a bluish white waxy coating soon turning yellowish green. The light-green striate-veined leaves are 4 to 6 inches long by one-third of an inch wide, with downy sheaths. The species is not very hardy, being a native of the lower slopes of the Himalayas in northwestern India. (Adapted from *Bailey, Standard Cyclopædia of Horticulture, vol. 1, p. 448.*)

Received as *Arundinaria gracilis*, which is now referred to *A. falcata*.

45903. ZEA MAYS L. Poaceæ. **Corn.**

From Argentina. Purchased from H. H. Marini & Co., Buenos Aires, through the American consul general. Received March 13, 1918.

An amber-colored variety of corn, obtained for experimental tests.

45904. LAGENARIA VULGARIS Seringe. Cucurbitaceæ. **Gourd.**

From Japan. Presented by Dr. L. H. Bailey, Ithaca, N. Y., who obtained them from Gov. H. Hiratsuka, Utsunomya, Japan. Received March 14, 1918.

"The largest gourd utensils I ever saw were at Utsunomya, Japan. I asked for seeds of them and have received a packet from Gov. H. Hiratsuka, of the prefecture. I am sending you some of these seeds, thinking that possibly you would like to have them grown at your Maryland or Florida stations, where the season will probably allow them to mature. Some of the gourds I saw in the market in Japan would hold, I should think, at least a peck." (*Bailey*.)

45905 to 45912.

From Venezuela and the West Indies. Collected by Mr. H. M. Curran, Laurel, Md., during an exploring trip made by him in 1917. Received March 14, 1918. Quoted notes by Mr. Curran unless otherwise noted.

45905. ACACIA sp. Mimosaceæ.

"From La Vela de Coro, Venezuela. A shrub or small tree, with ornamental red or purple wood."

45906. ACANTHORHIZA ACULEATA (Liebm.) Wendl. Phœnicaceæ. **Palm.**

"From Venezuela."

"A palm with a trunk 6 to 9 feet tall and 4 to 6 inches in diameter, armed with spiniform roots 3 to 4 inches in length. The leaves, forming a dense crown, are fan shaped, green above and silvery below, and about